

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01 HEW-06 DODE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 /089 W

-----051447 231419Z /44

R 221845Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2913

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LIBRAVILLE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL SALVADOR

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 6099

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR BR

SUBJECT: CACAO POD ROT IN BAHIA

REF: BRASILIA 5886

FOLLOWING MESSAGE PREPARED BY AMCONSUL SALVADOR:

1. CONOFF CONTACTED OFFICIALS OF TWO COCOA EXPORTING FIRMS IN BAHIA CONCERNING REPORTS OF POD POT DAMAGE TO LOCAL CROP (REFTEL).

BOTH FIRMS INDICATED THAT POD ROT, NOW A VIRTUALLY PERENNIAL PHENOMENON IN BAHIA, WILL TAKE GREATER TOLL THIS YEAR THAN LAST, DUE TO COOL TEMPERATURES AND UNUSUALLY HEAVY RAINFALL THROUGHOUT COCOA PRODUCING ZONE DURING PAST THREE WEEKS.

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(A CLEARING AND WARMING TREND HAS BEEN EVIDENT DURING LAST FOUR DAYS, HOWEVER).

BOTH OFFICIALS CONSIDERED REPORTS OF FIFTY PER CENT CROP LOSS TO BE HIGHLY EXAGGERATED, ALTHOUGH ONE FELT THAT LOSSES THIS YEAR COULD BE SEVERE. REAL EXTENT OF DAMAGE WILL ONLY BE KNOWN AFTER ANOTHER 2-3 WEEKS, WHEN (1) PERIOD OF GREATEST CLIMATIC THREAT HAS PASSED, AND (2

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DRYING OF PRIMITIVE ROADS PERMITS INSPECTION OF NOW VIRTUALLY  
INACCESSIBLE BACKLAND GROWING AREAS.

2. CONOFF ALSO SPOKE WITH PRESIDENT OF BAHIA STATE COCOA INSTITUTE,  
AS WELL AS TO MEMBER AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF COCOA PRODUCERS COUNCIL  
(COSELHO CONSULTIVO DOS PRODUTORES DE CACAU DO BRASIL)  
HEADQUARTERED IN ITABUNA, THE MAIN GROWING AREA. (POD ROT  
PROBLEMA WAS DISCUSSED AT GROUP'S MONTHLY MEETING TWO WEEKS  
AGO.) BOTH INDICATES THAT CROP LOSS COULD REACH TWENTY-FIVE  
TO THIRTY PERCENT OF PREVIOUSLY PROJECTED FOUR MILLION BAG (SIXTY  
KILO EACH) HARVEST THIS YEAR.  
ONSET OF POD ROT ATTACK, TIED TO WEATHER CONDITIONS, OCCURED  
IN LATE MAY AND EARLY JUNE THIS YEAR, AS COMPARED TO APRIL OF  
LAST YEAR, AND PRINCIPAL IMPACT WILL PROBABLY FALL NOT UPON TEMPORAO  
CROP CURRENTLY BEING HARVESTED, BUT UPON PRINCIPAL CROP (IN FACT  
OFTEN THE SMALLER OF THE TWO), FOR WHICH HARVESTING WILL BEGIN IN  
LATE SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER. THUS, CONCLUSIVE VERDICT ON DAMAGE IS  
STILL OUT AND CURRENT ASSESSMENTS ARE TENTATIVE.  
RUSER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COCOA, CROP DESTRUCTION, PLANT DISEASES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 BRASILIA 5886  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1782977  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CACAO POD ROT IN BAHIA  
**TAGS:** EAGR, TBIO, BR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009